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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

18 December 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM: Charles E. Waterman
National Intelligence Officer for NESA

SUBJECT: Monthly Warning Meeting - December 1981

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2. Libya and United States. The following ingredients of the current situation were noted by DIA and CIA representatives: the evacuation of United States personnel is proceeding well and is being facilitated by the Libyans; the Libyan military alert status is not significantly above normal. On the terrorist side, it was generally believed that the immediate threat to United States high level officials had decreased, despite some continuing reporting to the contrary; that Libya would be likely to utilize mercenaries of other nationalities in future terrorist operations; that a terrain such as Europe may be the scene of future Libyan actions; and that recent events would not affect Libyan policy on terrorism in the longer run. Some representatives felt that United States publicity on the terrorist threat was not being believed generally, and would be utilized by Qadhafi to isolate the United States position. [REDACTED]

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3. Iran-Iraq War. A consensus exists in the community that the momentum of the war has perceptibly shifted to the Iranian side. Recent Iranian ground successes at Bostan would probably be followed up as supply considerations permit. The Iraqis, on the other hand, seem to have no

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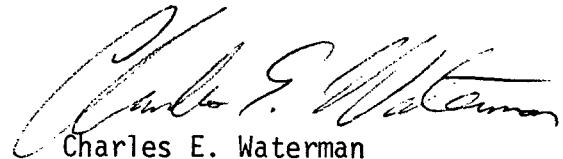
plan other than defensive. Iraqi troops are demoralized, and are reacting to Iranian initiatives. The air war has been prosecuted more aggressively by Iraq, but has resulted in the loss of some newly delivered high performance aircraft. Finally, there are vague rumblings within the Iraqi Baath which may indicate longer term trouble for President Saddam Husayn.

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[REDACTED] The Iranians have limited capability
for effectively employing mines [REDACTED] 25X1
but a plausible claim to have mined an area would likely have military
and economic impact similar to actual mining. [REDACTED] 25X1

5. Indo-Pak Tensions. There is a high level of rhetoric, and some reported Indian contingency planning, which serves to dramatize current tensions between India and Pakistan. Statements by a high level Indian official referring to "preparing the people for the eventuality of war" are germane. [REDACTED] 25X1

6. Morocco. Pressures of the Saharan war, economic effects of the drought, and campus demonstrators prompted a discussion on the Moroccan situation. It was noted that some Polisario activity in the central sector could presage a larger scale operation designed to heighten political pressure on King Hassan. The community consensus is that a number of factors are producing a general malaise in the country, but that this situation has not yet reached the danger point. [REDACTED] 25X1


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